

BROKEN EARTH
ROMANIA 2027 · HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Hands On Heritage

Program Itinerary

June 26 - July 9, 2027 · 14 days / 13 nights · Roșia Montană, Romania

RESTORE · CONNECT · DISCOVER

PROGRAM DATES: JUNE 26 - JULY 9, 2027 | 14 DAYS / 13 NIGHTS

How to read this itinerary

Hands On Heritage is being developed as a 14-day program centered on Roșia Montană and the work of Adoptă o Casă. The sequence below is the working program framework. Flight windows, excursion timing, restoration tasks and some afternoon activities remain to be confirmed with our Romanian partners. We will update the final itinerary before families book travel.

THE RHYTHM OF THE PROGRAM

Work mornings begin early and are followed by lunch. Afternoons and evenings combine learning, heritage exploration, community life, reflection and appropriate recreation. The exact restoration work changes according to what the site needs.

DAY 1 | Saturday, June 26 | Arrival in Romania & Group Welcome

Arrival, group transfer and welcome. Meet the Broken Earth team, review expectations, begin getting to know the group and prepare for the journey to Roșia Montană.

Focus: Arrival, orientation and group formation.

DAY 2 | Sunday, June 27 | Journey to Roșia Montană

Travel into Transylvania and arrive in Roșia Montană. Settle into shared dormitory accommodation, meet the local team, tour the immediate area and learn how communal living will work.

Focus: Place, community and shared responsibility.

DAY 3 | Monday, June 28 | Roșia Montană Orientation

Introduction to the village, its mining landscape and its layered history. Meet Claudia Apostol and the Adoptă o Casă team. Worksite orientation, safety briefing and introduction to the conservation project.

Focus: Why this place matters and what responsible restoration means.

DAY 4 | Tuesday, June 29 | First Restoration Work Day

Early start, breakfast and supervised restoration work through the morning. Lunch is followed by a learning session or village walk that connects the morning's work to the buildings and community around us.

Focus: Learning by doing.

DAY 5 | Wednesday, June 30 | Work, Craft & Traditional Techniques

Morning restoration work. Depending on the active project, students may encounter traditional plastering, masonry, carpentry, paving, shingles, ironwork or related conservation tasks. Afternoon interpretation and reflection.

Focus: Traditional skills, materials and patience.

DAY 6 | Thursday, July 1 | Roman Mining & the Story Beneath the Village

Morning work followed by deeper exploration of Roșia Montană's Roman mining heritage, gold-mining history, archaeology and the way mining has shaped the settlement across centuries.

Focus: History beneath our feet.

DAY 7 | Friday, July 2 | Work & Community

Morning restoration work. Afternoon and evening activities focus on the people who live in and care for Roșia Montană. Students consider how heritage, livelihoods and community are connected.

Focus: A historic place is also a living community.

DAY 8 | Saturday, July 3 | Reset, Explore & Reflect

A lighter day away from the regular work rhythm, with a regional excursion, walk, cultural activity or rest period to be confirmed. Time is built in for reflection and group check-in.

Focus: Rest, perspective and curiosity.

DAY 9 | Sunday, July 4 | Back to the Worksite

Return to the early-morning routine and supervised restoration work. After lunch, students examine how conservation decisions are made and why historic buildings cannot simply be repaired like new construction.

Focus: Care, judgment and stewardship.

DAY 10 | Monday, July 5 | Heritage, Advocacy & Commitment

Morning work. Later, students learn about the long effort to protect Roșia Montană and meet people who have committed years of their lives to the place. The emphasis is not on telling students what to believe, but on examining what commitment looks like.

Focus: What is worth standing for?

DAY 11 | Tuesday, July 6 | Work, Responsibility & Living With Less

Morning work followed by a group session on shared space, limited resources, cooperation and what students have learned from living more simply. Optional additional work may sometimes be available after lunch when a task needs finishing; participation beyond the scheduled work period is voluntary.

Focus: Interdependence and enough.

DAY 12 | Wednesday, July 7 | Final Work Day & Contribution

Complete the final scheduled restoration session and reflect with the local team on what the group contributed. Where appropriate, students help close out or tidy the worksite and celebrate the collective effort.

Focus: Contribution over accomplishment.

DAY 13 | Thursday, July 8 | Looking Back, Looking Forward

A closing day for local exploration, group reflection and discussion. Students consider what they will take home: knowledge, relationships, questions and a clearer sense of what they themselves care about.

Focus: Turning experience into perspective.

DAY 14 | Friday, July 9 | Departure

Breakfast, final group check and departure. The Broken Earth team supports participants through the agreed departure process and onward travel arrangements.

Focus: Farewell and transition home.

What remains to be finalized

- Final arrival/departure windows.
- The precise restoration sites and tasks, which depend on the needs of Adoptă o Casă's active projects.
- Regional excursion(s), afternoon workshops and some evening activities.
- Final transportation, meal and accommodation logistics.
- Final staffing, supervision ratios and emergency procedures.